

City of West Lafayette, Indiana
Board of Public Works and Safety
MINUTES

SEPTEMBER 16, 2014
8:30 a.m.
Morton Community Center
Multi-Purpose Room

Members present were Sana G. Booker, Tanuja R. Sheth, and Jonathan C. Speaker. Bradley W. Marley was absent. Mayor Dennis presided.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a. September 9, 2014, Meeting

Mr. Speaker moved to accept the minutes of the September 9, 2014, Board of Works meeting. Ms. Booker seconded the motion.

The motion was adopted.

2. NEW BUSINESS

a. Oath of Office: Board of Works Member – Tanuja R. Sheth

Mayor Dennis administered the oath of office to new Board of Works member, Tanuja R. Sheth, who took the place of Shawn R. Little.

Ms. Sheth, a resident of West Lafayette for 22 years, introduced herself and expressed her interest in public service work.

Mayor Dennis stated that Ms. Sheth's sacrifice will not go unnoticed.

b. Certification of Eligibility List for Applicants to the West Lafayette Police Department – Police Merit Commission

Police Chief Dombkowski stated that the Police Merit Commission (PMC) met yesterday and certified a list, which is in a sealed envelope. He requested approval of the certification of the list so that the Police Department can hire from the list.

Mayor Dennis provided background information, stating that the PMC is the board that is assigned to the Police Department. It is responsible for hiring, firing, promoting, and demoting in the Police Department. The eligibility list is predicated on applicants who have gotten through the pre-hire process, which includes background investigations, polygraphs, and agility tests. By Merit law, it is required that the Board of Works validates the list. When positions become available the Chief can select candidates to go in front of the Merit Commission for approval.

Ms. Booker moved that the Certification of Eligibility List for Applicants to the WLPD be approved. Mr. Speaker seconded the motion.

Clerk-Treasurer noted that this is the only time the Board will be asked to certify a list which is in a sealed envelope.

The motion was adopted.

c. Hire: Police Officer – Jordan Glick – Police

Chief Dombkowski requested approval to hire Jordan D. Glick as a Probationary Police Officer effective September 22, 2014, with a bi-weekly salary of \$1,823.43. He noted that Mr. Glick is the last officer to be hired from the previous eligibility list. Mr. Glick is currently a dispatcher for the City.

Ms. Booker moved that the hire of Jordan Glick as a Police Officer be approved. Mr. Speaker seconded the motion.

The motion was adopted.

d. Elevation: Lieutenant – David Lord – Police

Chief Dombkowski requested approval to promote Sergeant David Lord to Lieutenant effective September 15, 2014, with a new bi-weekly salary of \$2,413.64.

Mr. Speaker moved that the elevation for David Lord be approved. Ms. Booker seconded the motion.

The motion was adopted.

e. Elevation: Sergeant – Jonathan Eager – Police

Chief Dombkowski requested approval to promote Detective Jonathan Eager to Sergeant effective September 15, 2014, with a new bi-weekly salary of \$2,312.94.

Ms. Booker moved that the elevation for Jonathan Eager be approved. Mr. Speaker seconded the motion.

The motion was adopted.

f. Hire: Firefighter – Travis Bender – Fire

Fire Chief Heath requested approval to hire Travis Bender as an Entry Level Firefighter effective September 16, 2014, with a bi-weekly salary of \$1,823.43. Chief Heath confirmed for Mayor Dennis that there will be a swearing in ceremony immediately following the meeting.

Mr. Speaker moved that the hire of Travis Bender as an Entry Level firefighter be approved. Ms. Booker seconded the motion.

The motion was adopted.

g. Agreement: Cell Tower Upgrade Improvement – Crown Castle – Fire

Chief Heath stated that Crown Castle requested that we review plans to upgrade the equipment on the cell tower at Fire Station No. 1, located at 300 North Street. He explained that they are not adding any new carriers. They are removing old antennas, installing new ones, and repositioning the directionals for better service. It is an upgrade in equipment. Chief Heath stated that he and City Attorney Burns have had several discussions with Crown Castle about this.

Mr. Speaker moved that the agreement for the cell tower upgrade improvement be approved. Ms. Sheth seconded the motion.

The motion was adopted.

h. Claims

- i. AP Docket \$156,813.60

Mr. Speaker moved that the claims be approved. Ms. Booker seconded the motion.

There were no questions or comments about the claims.

The motion was adopted.

i. Informational Items

i. Legal Budget & Expenses – Clerk-Treasurer

There were no questions or comments about the listing.

ii. Park Board Dockets

There were no questions or comments about the listing.

j. Other Items

► Engineering Assistant Garrison provided construction updates, stating that the projects are in a similar situation as last week. He stated that some fence will be taken down in front of Wang Hall for the celebration there. To try to reduce expenses, the fence may be left down and Purdue will monitor pedestrian traffic.

► Mayor Dennis stated that the soil is rather saturated and has opened up concerns about some of the digging we are doing. The mud is starting to get into our drains and is causing some concern for citizens. He asked Public Works Director Buck to talk about erosion control and the soupy nature of our soil right now.

Director Buck stated that Mother Nature has not been kind the last two months with record rainfall. Progress on the Cumberland Sewer Extension and the Cumberland Avenue projects has been difficult due to the muddy conditions. He stated both of those projects have a Rule 5 permit, which is an erosion control permit, through Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM). Daily and weekly reporting is done to ensure that the silk fence is containing material on-site, and if any clean-up is needed it is documented and additional measures are put into place.

► Mayor Dennis stated that last night there was a discharge into our drinking water system that alarmed people on the south end of town. At the same time we were having a torrential downpour, some citizens noticed that the fire hydrants were being pumped. Mayor Dennis asked WWTU Director Henderson to explain what happened.

Director Henderson stated that it was brought to his attention that there were several hydrants flushing during the storm and beyond. He called Indiana American Water, our privately-owned drinking water provider. They had taken the Happy Hollow plant offline for maintenance and were feeding all of the water for the City from the Davis Ferry plant on North 9th Street. Director Henderson explained that the main drinking water line along Happy Hollow Road normally flows in one direction, and when it started to be fed from another direction the naturally occurring mineral deposits that settle in the line broke off in the reversed flow. The deposits were suspended in the water that was coming out of the faucets, causing brown water. The hydrants were open to flush out

that water. He explained that it was not posing a health hazard because the deposits are in the line normally and the water usually passes by it.

Mayor Dennis asked if Indiana American Water has their schedule for tapping into their hydrants and doing the flushing.

Director Henderson responded that they do, but this was in response to the brown water. The maintenance was scheduled for the Happy Hollow plant and this was an unintended consequence of reversing that flow and feeding it from Davis Ferry. He stated that Indiana American Water was not expecting quite that much sediment to be stirred up. The opening of the hydrants to clear it out, along with the storm, caused the combined sewer overflow (CSO) to be longer in duration and have more volume in the combination sewer area in New Chauncey. Director Henderson stated that he will encourage open communication so that we have a heads-up when Indiana American Water has a problem.

► Director Henderson reported that we have broken ground on the phosphorus removal project with the new chemical building at the wastewater plant. The project will be approximately 9 months long and then we will move towards compliance in removing phosphorus.

► Councilor Hunt welcomed Ms. Sheth to the Board. She reported that the Art on the Wabash event is this Sunday, September 21. She described the event and encouraged attendance.

► Chief Dombkowski reported that there is continued monitoring in the Cumberland construction school zone. There are officers in the zone everyday and Sergeant Marion has been a liaison between the contractors and the school to make sure the project is as smooth as it can be. He reported that there is a Purdue home football game this weekend and the barricades will be out in the Village.

3. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, Mr. Marley moved that the meeting be adjourned, and Mayor Dennis adjourned the meeting.